

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-26 (canceled)

Claim 27 (currently amended): A method of detecting 1) one or more antibodies selected from the group consisting of Human Immunodeficiency Virus-1 (HIV-1) antibody and Human Immunodeficiency Virus-2 (HIV-2) antibody, and 2) one or more antigens selected from the group consisting of HIV-1 antigen and HIV-2 antigen, in a test sample suspected of containing said one or more of said antibodies and one or more of said antigens, comprising the steps of:

- a) contacting said test sample with at least one HIV-1 antigen which binds to HIV-1 antibody for a time and under conditions sufficient for the formation of HIV-1 antigen/HIV-1 antibody complexes;
- b) detecting said HIV-1 antigen/HIV-1 antibody complexes, presence of said complexes indicating presence of HIV-1 antibody in said test sample;
- c) contacting said test sample with at least one HIV-2 antigen which binds to HIV-2 antibody for a time and under conditions sufficient for the formation of HIV-2 antigen/HIV-2 antibody complexes;
- d) detecting said HIV-2 antigen/HIV-2 antibody complexes, presence of said complexes indicating presence of HIV-2 antibody in said test sample;
- e) contacting said test sample with at least one monoclonal antibody which binds to a shared epitope of Human Immunodeficiency Virus-1 protein p24 and Human Immunodeficiency Virus-2 protein p26 for a time and under conditions sufficient for the formation of antibody/antigen complexes; and
- f) detecting said complexes, presence of said complexes indicating presence of at least one antigen selected from the group consisting of HIV-1 antigen and HIV-2 antigen, in said test sample.

Claim 28 (original): A method of detecting 1) one or more antibodies selected from the group consisting of HIV-1 antibody and HIV-2 antibody, and 2) one or more antigens selected from the group consisting of HIV-1 antigen and HIV-2 antigen, in a test sample suspected of containing said one or more of said antibodies and one or more of said antigens, comprising the steps of:

- a) contacting said test sample with at least one HIV-1 antigen which binds to HIV-1 antibody for a time and under conditions sufficient for the formation of HIV-1 antigen/HIV-1 antibody complexes;
- b) adding a conjugate to the resulting HIV-1 antigen/HIV-1 antibody complexes for a time and under conditions sufficient to allow said conjugate to bind to the bound antibody, wherein said conjugate comprises an antigen attached to a signal generating compound capable of generating a detectable signal;
- c) detecting HIV-1 antibody which may be present in said test sample by detecting a signal generated by said signal generating compound, presence of said signal indicating presence of HIV-1 antibody in said test sample;
- d) contacting said test sample with at least one HIV-2 antigen which binds to HIV-2 antibody for a time and under conditions sufficient for the formation of HIV-2 antigen/HIV-2 antibody complexes;
- e) adding a conjugate to the resulting HIV-2 antigen/HIV-2 antibody complexes for a time and under conditions sufficient to allow said conjugate to bind to the bound antibody, wherein said conjugate comprises an antigen attached to a signal generating compound capable of generating a detectable signal;
- f) detecting HIV-2 antibody which may be present in said test sample by detecting a signal generated by said signal-generating compound, presence of said signal indicating presence of HIV-2 antibody in said test sample;

g) contacting said test sample with at least one monoclonal antibody which binds to a shared epitope of Human Immunodeficiency Virus-1 protein 24 and Human Immunodeficiency Virus-2 protein p26 for a time and under conditions sufficient for the formation of antibody/antigen complexes;
h) adding a conjugate to the resulting antibody/antigen complexes for a time and under conditions sufficient to allow said conjugate to bind to the bound antigen, wherein said conjugate comprises an antibody attached to a signal generating compound capable of generating a detectable signal; and
i) detecting presence of antigen which may be present in said test sample by detecting a signal generated by said signal generating compound, presence of said signal indicating presence of at least one antigen selected from the group consisting of HIV-1 antigen and HIV-2 antigen in said test sample.

Claim 29 (new): The method of claim 27 wherein said at least one HIV-1 antigen of step a) is a core antigen.

Claim 30 (new): The method of claim 29 wherein said core antigen is p24.

Claim 31 (new): The method of claim 27 wherein said at least one HIV-2 antigen of step c) is a core antigen.

Claim 32 (new): the method of claim 31 wherein said core antigen is p26.

Claim 33 (new): The method of claim 27 wherein said at least one monoclonal antibody of step e) is selected from the group consisting of 120A-270, 115B-151, 117-289, 103-350, 115B-303 and 108-394.

Claim 34 (new): The method of claim 28 wherein said at least one HIV-1 antigen of step a) is a core antigen.

Claim 35 (new): The method of claim 34 wherein said core antigen is p24.

Claim 36 (new): The method of claim 35 wherein said at least one HIV-2 antigen of step d) is a core antigen.

Claim 37 (new): The method of claim 36 wherein said core antigen is p26.

Claim 38 (new): The method of claim 28 wherein said at least one monoclonal antibody of step g) is selected from the group consisting of 120A-270, 115B-151, 117-289, 103-350, 115B-303 and 108-394.

Claim 39 (new): The method of claim 28 wherein said antibody of step g) of said conjugate is selected from the group consisting of 120A-270, 115B-151, 117-289, 103-350, 115B-303 and 108-394.